

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-16, 20, 27-28, and 32-41 without prejudice to the inclusion of the subject matter contained therein in any later filed continuation and/or divisional application(s).

Please amend claims 17-19, 21, 23, 29-31, and 42-44, without prejudice, as indicated below.

1-16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence from nucleotide number 1 to nucleotide number 3201 of SEQ ID NO:2 of claim 1.

18. (Currently amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:17~~encoded by the nucleic acid of claim 6.~~

19. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 17, wherein said polypeptide ~~shares at least about 20% identity with a polypeptide having~~comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:18.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 17, wherein the amino acid sequence of said polypeptide ~~has at least about 20% identity with~~comprises from ~~about~~ amino acid residue 1 to ~~about~~ amino acid residue 1067 of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

22. (Original) The isolated polypeptide of claim 17, said polypeptide further comprising a tag polypeptide.

23. (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 22, wherein said tag polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a myc tag polypeptide, a myc-pyruvate

kinase tag polypeptide, a glutathione-S-transferase tag polypeptide, a maltose binding tag polypeptide, a green fluorescence protein tag polypeptide, an alkaline phosphatase tag polypeptide, a His6 tag polypeptide, an influenza virus hemagglutinin tag polypeptide, and a maltose binding protein tag polypeptide.

24. (Original) The isolated polypeptide of claim 23, wherein said tag polypeptide is a myc tag polypeptide.

25. (Original) A recombinant cell comprising the isolated soluble Jagged polypeptide of claim 17.

26. (Original) A composition comprising an isolated soluble Jagged polypeptide in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

27-28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an isolated soluble Jagged polypeptide, ~~or a functionally equivalent derivative, or an allelic or species variant thereof~~ wherein said polypeptide comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO:18, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

30. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a recombinant cell comprising an isolated nucleic acid encoding a soluble Jagged polypeptide in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said isolated nucleic acid comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO:17.

31. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a recombinant cell comprising an isolated soluble Jagged polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:18.

32-41. (Canceled).

42. (Currently amended) A kit for affecting angiogenesis in a mammal, said kit comprising an angiogenic effective amount of an isolated soluble Jagged polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:18, an applicator, and an instructional material for the use of said kit.

43. (Currently amended) A kit for affecting differentiation of a cell, said kit comprising a differentiation effective amount of an isolated soluble Jagged polypeptide, an applicator, and an instructional material for the use of said kit, wherein said polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:18.

44. (Currently amended) A kit for inhibiting expression of type I collagen in a cell, said kit comprising an expression inhibiting amount of an isolated soluble Jagged polypeptide, an applicator, and an instructional material for the use of said kit, wherein said polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:18.